A Trainer’s Top Tips for Teaching Online
SITE 2005 Paper Proposal

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Today, there is much literature regarding the best practices in online learning. But seldom does one find truly practical and helpful tips for improving their online courses. This paper will provide online instructors and trainers some useful guidelines, suggestions and even free resources that they can actually implement to better their online courses.

Working in the Distance Learning field for over six years, the presenter, Christy Talley, has had experience conducting numerous and varying types of workshops for faculty who teach online. As a trainer, the presenter has also individually assisted faculty at the State University of West Georgia to develop and improve both online and hybrid courses. The presenter has also learned much from the perspective of being an online graduate student herself. Miss Talley also co-facilitates the online course programs – the Distance Education Certificate Program and the Distance Education Certified Trainer Program which both have participants from around the world. Miss Talley also works closely with and supports the State University of West Georgia’s online students. She has conducted surveys and focus groups to ascertain the needs of the university’s students who take online courses.

A Trainer’s Top Tips for Teaching Online will include a top ten list of techniques and tools for faculty who teach courses either partially or totally online. The trainer’s top ten will include but not be limited to strategies for interaction in online courses, adding audio easily, teaching to different learning styles, and more. The presenter will also include teaching resources for online instructors that deter faculty from further reinventing the wheel. Lastly, the presenter will outline online students’ feedback and what they are most critical of and what they appreciate most in online courses. The trainer’s tips will be easy, practical and beneficial to implement into anyone’s online courses.